

Downtown Evansville Year-Round Event

**Tropicana Hotel & Casino
421 NW Riverside, Evansville IN 47708.**

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Volkssport Association**



Enjoy Evansville - Indiana's Pocket City with a walk along the Ohio River greenways and historic downtown sites and neighborhoods

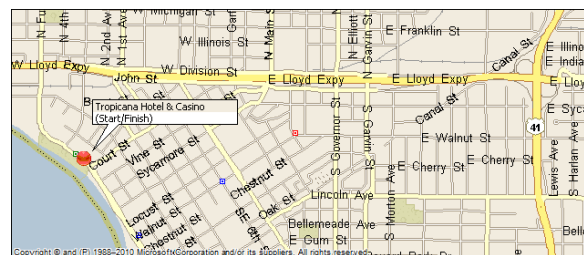
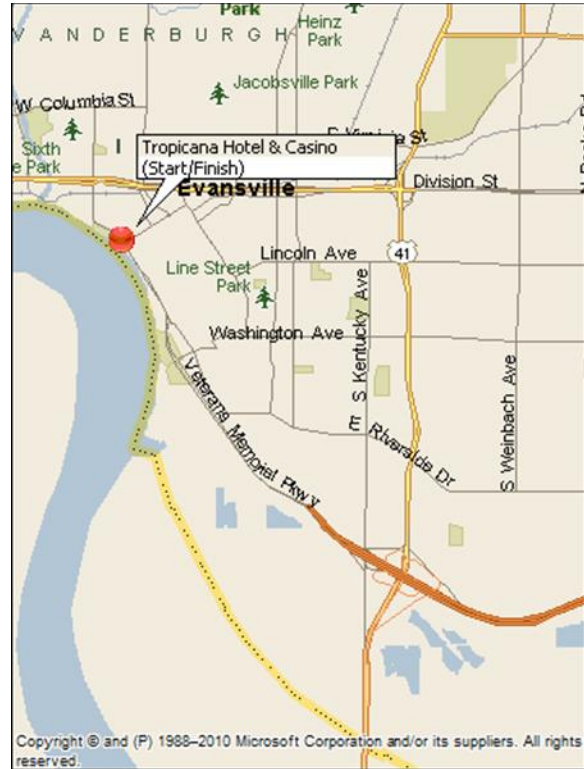
Evansville is now the home port of WWII ship LST 325, which you can see as you walk along the river. The trail follows portions of the Greenway Passage. It passes the new arena, parts of the downtown area, a historic Victorian residential area, along the Ohio River Esplanade, and includes several historic churches.

Qualifies for the following special event programs: Rockin' Around the Clock and Walking with America's Veterans. In 2022 this walk also qualifies for the Rails-To-Trails and Town Halls / City Halls

Driving directions

The start point is the parking lot of the Tropicana Hotel and Casino, 421 NW Riverside, Evansville IN 47708. From the North take US 41 or I-164 to Lloyd Expressway (SR 62) W to Fulton exit, turn left (S). At curve Fulton becomes Riverside.

From the South exit US 41 to Veterans Memorial Pkwy. W to Riverside. Follow the Casino Tropicana signs. Free parking available in Tropicana parking garage.



POINT OF CONTACT:

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Rest rooms are available at the start /finish point and along the trail at restaurants and parks

Note: There is a traditional start box at the Hotel's front desk. If you have initiated registration in OSB for this event, please stay with the OSB process. No need to double register at the start box.

EVANSVILLE HISTORY WALK – 10K

Some noteworthy places are indicated by letters below and on the map.

1. From the Tropicana Hotel parking garage go to the ground floor to the lobby, face the street, exit through LEFT DOOR.

2. Go to corner of RIVERSIDE DR. and COURT ST. Carefully cross RIVERSIDE DR. with light. Turn RIGHT on PIGEON CREEK GREENWAY (blacktop walking/biking trail with center line).

A Pass the Riverboat Casino. It opened in 1995 -- the first riverboat casino in Indiana,

3. Approaching a railroad track, GREENWAY turns LEFT. Do not cross track here. Stay on GREENWAY.

4. At CROSSING GATE turn RIGHT, go thru gate, cross track. Continue on GREENWAY.

B The SHIRLEY JAMES GATEWAY PLAZA was dedicated in 2009; six stainless steel panels depict the history of transportation in Evansville.

5. Continue on GREENWAY. Go under bridge. (LLOYD EXPRESSWAY).

C Note factory. From mid-1800s to mid-1900s, Evansville was a major furniture-making center.

6. Continue on GREENWAY. Go under bridge. (W. FRANKLIN ST.)

D Stay on Greenway through Lamasco Park. Pass a skate park on your left.

7. Before GREENWAY goes under next bridge go RIGHT up steps. Turn LEFT on W. Maryland St. bridge.

E : Read the sign by the sidewalk on the bridge. **A popular health resort/park existed in this area in the early 1900s. What was its name?**

Continue on W. Maryland St. on bridge over Pigeon Creek.

8. Continue on W. Maryland St. Cross Wabash Avenue. Turn LEFT

F . Note Post Office across Wabash.

G St. Boniface Catholic Church was founded in 1881 by German craftsmen who worked in furniture factories.

On Easter Sunday, 1902, lightning started a fire destroying the church. It was rebuilt and reopened in 1903.

9. Turn RIGHT on FRANKLIN ST.

Franklin St. was the main street of the town of Lamasco, incorporated in 1839. The name was based on three proprietors' names -- John & Wm. Law, James B. MacCall, and Lucius H. Scott. Lamasco merged with Evansville in 1857, but keeps its independent spirit. The Nut Club's annual Fall Festival is among the largest in the Midwest.

10. Turn RIGHT on WABASH AVE.

H Walk by (or go inside) the Milk and Sugar Scoop Shoppe on your right.

11. Turn LEFT at N. 10th Ave. Carefully cross Franklin St. with light.

12. Turn LEFT on Franklin St.

I Pass the Gerst Haus built in 1890 for the Rosenberger Wholesale & Retail Grocery. Later the Heldt & Voelker Hardware Store was here for many years. Several beers once brewed in Evansville are available here on tap.

13. Continue on Franklin St. Be especially careful crossing streets with stoplights.

J Emmanuel Lutheran Church was founded by German immigrants in 1855.

14. At N. FIRST AVE. turn right.

K Willard Library, Indiana's first public library, opened in 1885. Willard Carpenter gave the land and paid for its construction. It is famous for its archives of Evansville documents, an extensive genealogy collection, and a ghost the "Gray Lady."

15 Continue on right side and **very carefully** go under LLOYD EXPRESSWAY with light.

16. Stay on right side and continue on NW 3rd St.

17. At RR Tracks NW 3rd St. "bends" left (Raben Tire is on the other side of the street). After crossing W. Bond St. NW 3rd St. "bends" right.

18. Turn RIGHT on CARPENTER ST. Go 10-15 feet until you see the Carpenter House on right.

L Read the large historical marker just inside the fence. Born in Vermont in 1803, philanthropist Willard Carpenter had this house built in 1849. He lived here until his death in 1885 shortly before Willard Library was completed.

19. Retrace your steps back to NW 3rd St. Turn RIGHT.

20. Cross COURT ST. Turn LEFT. Continue on COURT ST. Pass Coliseum and Court House.

M The Coliseum was built in 1916 to honor all who fought in the Civil War and Spanish-American War. It was the site of major concerts, speeches, political rallies, conferences, and athletic events until 1967 when the Vanderburgh County Auditorium was built.

N The "Old" Court House was built in 1888-1891 of Indiana limestone with ornate facades outside and notable décor inside (marble floors, oak woodwork, brass rails). It now contains offices and small businesses. If you have the time, a visit inside would be enjoyable.

21. Continue 2 more blocks on COURT ST. to M. L. KING, JR. BLVD.

22. Turn RIGHT on M. L. KING, JR. BLVD. Go 3 blocks to MAIN ST.

O The Federal Office Building has a post office, federal court rooms, customs offices, etc.

P The Civic Center has city and county offices, sheriff's and city police offices, and courtrooms.

Q A memorial for veterans of the Desert Storm War (First Gulf War) is by the sidewalk.

23. Cross MAIN ST. with light, turn RIGHT,

R The Ford Center is a multi-purpose arena for basketball and hockey games, road shows, etc.

S The Victory Theater cost \$1 million when it opened in 1921. Renovated in 1992 at a cost of \$8.2 million, it is

now the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra's home. All the "glitz" is inside.

24. Continue on MAIN ST. to 2nd ST. Turn LEFT. Go 1 block to LOCUST ST. Turn RIGHT.
25. On LOCUST ST. go 1 block to 1st ST. Turn LEFT. **See notes about many homes on Historic First Street following these instructions.**
26. On 1st ST. go 2 blocks to CHESTNUT ST.
└ The beautiful Reitz Home Museum at 1st and Chestnut was built in 1871.
27. Continue 6 more blocks on 1st ST. to ADAMS AVE. At ADAMS AVE. turn RIGHT.
28. Go 2 blocks on ADAMS AVE. to RIVERSIDE DR. where ADAMS AVE. ends and SHAWNEE DR. begins.
29. Continue straight ahead 2 blocks on SHAWNEE DR. to VETERANS PARKWAY.
30. **Very carefully** cross VETERANS PARKWAY with light. Follow GREENWAY on left side of tennis courts.
31. At top of levee turn RIGHT on GREENWAY Continue on GREENWAY along riverfront.
Pass the Evansville Museum (**U**), Evansville's Visitors Center (Pagoda) (**V**), Four Freedoms Monument (**W**), and Korean and Vietnam War Memorials (**X**). Continue on GREENWAY. Note the many historical plaques on the railing. Look to your left along the bank of the Ohio River to see the LST 325, the last fully operational LST in existence. During WWII 167 LSTs were built in the Evansville shipyard. Below the rail on Dress Plaza is a riverside amphitheater.
32. Continue on GREENWAY to COURT ST. Turn RIGHT. Carefully cross RIVERSIDE DR. with light.
33. Return to Tropicana Hotel parking garage.

FIRST STREET HISTORIC AREA (Instruction #25)

214 S. E. First St. -- Garvin Home (1859), Neo-Classical portico, once a B&B
224 S. E. First St. -- Reitz Home (1871), built in French Second Empire style for one of the most prominent families
301 S. E. First St. -- St. Paul's Episcopal Church (1886), 124 ft. steeple was a landmark for river boat captains, renovated after 1937 flood and 1938 fire
304 S. E. First St. -- Hollingsworth Home (1860), facade added by Storms family in 1889
310 S. E. First St. -- Nisbet Home (1880), American Victorian at its most flamboyant
313-315 S. E. First St. -- Stockwell-Wheeler Double Home (1839), oldest known extant building in downtown area, similar to eastern Federal style

406 S. E. First St. -- Caldwell Home (1895), bay style with decorative wood trim

409-411 S. E. First St. -- Sweetser Double (1883), built for two sisters and their families
420 S. E. First St. -- Sherwood Home (1867), initially Italianate with Neo-Classical portico added
421 S. E. First St. -- Rosencranz Home (1890), originally Queen Anne style, altered later
506 S. E. First St. -- Bell Home (1849), among the earliest remaining structures
521 S. E. First St. -- Eichel Home (1884), brickyard owner used his company's new pressed bricks for his home
603 S. E. First St. -- Samuel Orr Home (1905), boyhood home of Governor Robert D. Orr, like English manor
606 S. E. First St. -- Gross Home (1896), late Victorian style with many exotic touches
615 S. E. First St. -- Johnson Home (1867), Italianate style with showy porch added in 1893
706 S. E. First St. -- Howes Home (1860), French Second Empire style with iron verandah added in 1871
719 S. E. First St. -- Sonntag Home (1900), Georgian Revival style with classic portico
726 S. E. First St. -- Earlier Sonntag Home (1863), Tuscan Italianate villa
810 S. E. First St. -- Strouse Home (1897), round corner towers probably inspired by castles
813 S. E. First St. -- Bosse Home (1916), Prairie School style is unusual in Evansville; remembered as Evansville's most progressive mayor, Benjamin Bosse served from 1913 to 1922
821 S. E. First St. -- Rahm Home (1901), house was wedding present for William Rahm's daughter, Maude
827 S. E. First St. -- Fendrich Home (1917), built for cigar manufacturer, John H. Fendrich, with concrete and steel framework, and fine interior with elaborate marble and carved walnut décor

We hope you enjoyed this walk, and invite you to experience other nearby walks sponsored by our club across the Ohio River in Kentucky, at Audubon State Park and in downtown Henderson.

This map and directions may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES: DIAL 911

WALK COMPLETION AND CREDIT

Be sure to log back into the OSB system to "finish/complete" your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's Event Bank until they have submitted event completion info including the date of the event, the distance, and the selection of applicable special programs

that person is participating in. (Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the user's Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when he/she submits the event completion info as a paying for credit participant. Note, however, the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF will expire in 60 days.).

Evansville Downtown – 10K Trail

EVANSVILLE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN HISTORY 10 K WALK



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These directions may be used only upon registration at a currently sanctioned American Volkssport Association event.

EVANSVILLE DOWNTOWN HISTORY WALK – 5K

Some noteworthy places are indicated by bold letters below and on the map.

1. From the Tropicana Hotel parking garage go to the ground floor to the lobby, face the street, exit through LEFT DOOR.
2. Go to corner of RIVERSIDE DR. and COURT ST. Carefully cross COURT ST. with light.
3. Go straight ahead on RIVERSIDE DR. 1 block to VINE ST. Carefully cross VINE ST.
4. Turn LEFT on VINE ST. Go straight ahead on VINE ST.

A At NW 2nd St. look right. The Old Post Office and Customs House was completed in 1879. The top two floors are occupied by the Social Security Administration's Adjudication Division.

B At NW 3rd St. look right. The old Greyhound Bus Station opened in 1939 and was in use until 2007 when a different terminal was built. Indiana Landmarks purchased it and supervised its renovation into a restaurant.

C The "Old Jail" at 4th St. was built in 1891. Its castle-like appearance was designed to invoke fear.

D The "Old Court House" was built in 1888-1891 of Indiana limestone with ornate facades outside and notable décor (marble floors, oak woodwork, brass rails, etc.) inside. It now contains offices and small businesses. If you have the time, a visit inside would be enjoyable.

5. At M. L. KING, JR. BLVD, turn RIGHT.

E The Federal Office Building houses federal court rooms, customs offices, a post office, and other offices.

F By the sidewalk is a memorial for veterans of the Desert Storm War (First Gulf War).

G In the Civic Center are city and county offices, police and sheriff's headquarters, and courtrooms.

6. At MAIN ST. turn RIGHT.

H The 2011 Ford Center is a large multi-purpose arena for basketball and hockey games, circuses, road shows, etc.

I The Victory Theater cost \$1 million when it opened in 1921. Renovated in 1992 at a cost of \$8.2 million, it is now the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra's home. All the "glitz" is inside.

J At 206 Main Street pass (or go inside) Emge's Deli and Ice Cream shop.

7. Carefully cross 2nd ST. with the light. Turn LEFT.

8. Carefully cross MAIN ST. with the light. Go straight ahead three blocks on 2nd ST. to CHESTNUT ST. Turn RIGHT.

K Dr. Abraham Owen built the Owen Block in 1882 with four townhouses. Owen and his family lived in one townhouse and he rented out the other three. On the brink of destruction in 2014, Indiana Landmarks purchased the Owen Block and supervised its restoration creating 15 one-bedroom apartments, now all occupied.

9. On CHESTNUT ST. go one block to 1st ST.

L The beautiful Reitz Home at 1st and Chestnut was built in 1871 and is now a museum? Turn LEFT on 1st ST.

M St. Paul's Episcopal Church was built in 1886. The 124 ft. steeple was a landmark for river boat captains. The church was restored after the 1937 flood and 1938 fire.

9. Go straight ahead on 1st ST. three blocks to MULBERRY ST.

10. At MULBERRY ST. turn LEFT. Go one block on MULBERRY ST.

11. At SE 2nd ST turn RIGHT.

N First Presbyterian Church was the first religious community in the pioneer town of Evansville. The church's first building was a log house, built in 1817. In 1832 the "Little Church on the Hill" was built on 2nd St. The church's current building was dedicated in 1874 and has been in constant use ever since.

12. Go straight ahead on 2nd ST. to ADAMS AVE.

13. At ADAMS AVE. carefully cross S. E. SECOND ST. to BRICK PARKWAY.

You are entering an area called "Haynie's Corner" so named because there once was a Haynie's Drug Store on this corner. It is now Evansville's "arts district" and many renovations have been made in recent years.

O Walk by the water fountain.

P Note the Alhambra Theatre. When it opened in 1913, this was one of the largest movie theaters in Evansville. It closed in 1956. The exterior has been renovated with interior renewal planned.

14. Carefully go back across S. E. SECOND to ADAMS AVE.

15. Go 2 blocks on ADAMS AVE. where ADAMS AVE. ends and SHAWNEE DR. begins.

16. Continue straight ahead on SHAWNEE DRIVE to VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY

17. **Very carefully** cross VETERANS MEMORIAL PARKWAY with light.

18. Go straight ahead on the GREENWAY, a paved walking/biking trail beside the tennis courts

Q You are entering Sunset Park with a playground area, gardens, and tennis courts.

19. At top of levee turn RIGHT on GREENWAY beside the Ohio River, the "beautiful river."

Pass the Evansville Museum (**R**), Evansville Visitors' Center (Pagoda) (**S**), Four Freedoms Monument (**T**), and Vietnam and Korean Veterans Memorials (**U**). Note the many historical plaques on the railing. Look upstream to your left along the bank of the Ohio River to see the LST 325. LST stands for Landing Ship, Tanks. These ships were designed to land battle ready tanks, vehicles, soldiers, and supplies directly onto enemy beaches. During WWII 167 LSTs were built in 2½ years in Evansville. This is the last fully operational LST in the world. Tours are available Tuesday-Sunday for a fee. If the LST 325 is not there, it is away on tour. Below the rail on Dress Plaza is a riverside amphitheater.

20. Go to COURT ST. Carefully cross RIVERSIDE DRIVE with light.

21. Return to Tropicana Evansville Hotel parking garage

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Evansville Downtown 5K Trail



4 K 5

Map data ©2017 Google

500 FT